Alakananda river on whose banks the Badrinath Shrine is situated has caused cracks in some other buildings also adjoining the temple; and

(b) whether cracks have developed in the foundations of Badrinath Shrine Complex; if so, what measures have been taken to repair them?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Norm for Continuation of Posts

1726. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether norms have been prescribed for continuation of posts from year to year;

(b) whether there has been any violation of these norms in respect of continuation of posts during the past three years in respect of Textile Training posts in the office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts); and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken to rectify the same and for fixing responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only those posts have been contained which fulfil the norms prescribed by the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Pollution of River Godavari

1727. SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government are aware of the fact that severe pollution of river Godavari at Nasik Road (Maharashtra) is caused by huge quantity of ash being thrown into the river bed from the Thermal Power Station, Ekalahre (Nasik Road); and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken so far to check this pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) The thremal power station at Ekalahre has got arrangements for treatment and disposal of effluents as prescribed by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. The decanted water from the slurry settled in an ash pond joins the river Godavari and has been found to conform to the pollution control standards set by the State Pollution Control Board. However, the villagers often break the well of the ash bund for abtaining water for irrigation purposes and this causes the ash-mixed water to enter the Godavari. The State Pollution Control Board has directed the Maharashtra State Electricity Board to keep a close watch on the bund of the ash pond so that such incidents are prevented.

Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Pollution of River Krishna

1728. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the action plan for prevention and control of pollution of river Krishna and its tributaries prepared jointly by the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra has been received; and

(b) if so, what action the Central Government propose to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.